



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RESPONSE TO THE MAY 19, 2006 OFFICE ACTION

APPLICANT: Oliver SCHRECK CONFIRMATION NO.: 3794
SERIAL NO.: 10/072,039 GROUP ART UNIT: 3737
FILED: February 5, 2002 EXAMINER: B. Roy
TITLE: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FUNCTIONAL
MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING"

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

S I R:

Applicant and his counsel have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated May 19, 2006, but believe the claims in their present form are patentable over the references that are available as prior art against the subject matter of this application. Reconsideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated May 19, 2006, claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by deCharms. Claims 1-5 also were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jesmanowicz et al in view of deCharms. The deCharms reference claims the benefit of the filing dates of two provisional applications, both of which were filed on January 30, 2001. Applicant's representative has not reviewed the prosecution history for the deCharms published application, and therefore has not ascertained as a factual matter whether the disclosure of those provisional applications supports the portions of the deCharms reference currently relied